

Town of Chelsea, Maine
ConnectME Grant Request/ Pre-application Letter

Feb 8, 2013

Contact: Scott Tilton, Town Manager
 Town of Chelsea
 560 Togus Road
 Chelsea, Maine 04330

To the ConnectME Authority,

The Town of Chelsea Maine is seeking funding from ConnectME to provide high speed internet service to the unserved area of Chelsea, in Kennebec County.

BACKGROUND

The Town of Chelsea currently receives high speed internet service from Time Warner Cable. Included in this pre-application letter is a description of the proposed expansion area with an estimated cost of the project by Time Warner Cable as the primary service provider.

The residents of the proposed grant area have expressed an urgent need for high speed internet access.

THE AREA TO BE SERVED BY THIS GRANT

The requested ConnectME Grant will allow for 4,013' of aerial construction with 8 new homes past. The average density for this project is 10.5 HPM with a cost per passing of \$1,519.00. Proposed extension will be from the existing cable system in Chelsea into Dondero Rd, Jane St. Hankerson Rd and McGee Drive.

COMMUNICATIONS WITH EXISTING BROADBAND SERVICE PROVIDERS

Communications, by Chelsea, with Fairpoint Communication indicated that they were not interested in serving the areas being requested. Chelsea therefore has chosen Time Warner Cable as the primary and preferred provider partner for this project. Time Warner currently serves much of the Town of Chelsea. Expansion by Time Warner into these

areas will also allow households another option for cable television and digital telephone service.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT

Time Warner will use their hybrid fiber/coax system, utilizing DOCSIS cable modem technology providing 15Mbps downstream and 1Mbps upstream speeds as standard service. (Lower levels of service will be available as well as up to 50Mbps downstream and 5Mbps upstream speeds with the current Ultimate Internet plan).

TOTAL AMOUNT OF FUNDING REQUESTED:

Homes passed: _____ 8

Mileage _____ .76

Estimated total cost of project: _____ \$ 12,152.00

Time Warner Contribution: _____ \$ 6,000.00

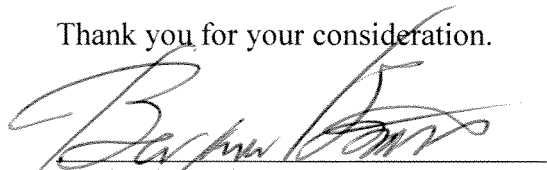
Estimated Grant amounted requested: \$ 6,152.00

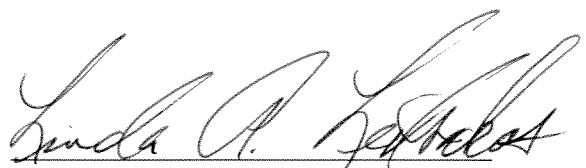
Funding for the project will come from the ConnectME Authority with Time Warner Cable providing approximately 49.37% (\$6,000.00) of the actual project cost. The Town of Chelsea will not provide funding for the project. The project is expected to be completed within the 12 month period required by the ConnectME Authority.

PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT

This project has the strong support of the Board of Selectmen and the grant area residents. Letters of support will be provided with our final grant application

Thank you for your consideration.


Benjamin Smith, Chair


Linda Leotsakos

Michael Pushard

**Selectmen
Town of Chelsea**